# LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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### FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6149 NOTE PREPARED: Feb 2, 2009
BILL NUMBER: SB 196 BILL AMENDED: Jan 29, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Electronic Devices While Operating a Motor Vehicle.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Wyss BILL STATUS: 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - 1<sup>st</sup> House

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State & Local

X DEDICATED FEDERAL

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> The bill provides that a person who uses a handheld device while operating a motor vehicle as a public passenger chauffeur commits a Class C infraction.

It also provides that a person who drives a motor vehicle that has a video monitor, portable computer, or other similar device capable of providing a visual display that can be seen by a person sitting in the driver's seat that is being operated while the person is driving commits a Class C infraction, with certain exceptions.

(The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the Interim Study Committee on Learner's Permits and Graduated Driver's Licenses.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

#### **Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:** There are no data available to indicate how many offenders may be convicted of one of these new Class C infractions. If additional court cases occur and infraction judgments and court fees are collected, revenue to the state General Fund may increase. The maximum judgment for a Class C infraction is \$500, which is deposited in the state General Fund.

If court actions are filed and a judgment is entered, a court fee of \$70 would be assessed, 70% of which would be deposited in the state General Fund if the case is filed in a court of record or 55% if the case is filed in a city or town court. In addition, some or all of the document storage fee (\$2), automated record keeping fee (\$7), judicial salaries fee (\$18), the public defense administration fee (\$3), the court administration fee

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(\$5), and the judicial insurance adjustment fee (\$1) are deposited into the state General Fund.

## **Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** If additional court actions are filed and a judgment is entered, local governments would receive revenue from the following sources. The county general fund would receive 27% of the \$70 court fee that is assessed in a court of record. Cities and towns maintaining a law enforcement agency that prosecutes at least 50% of its ordinance violations in a court of record may receive 3% of court fees. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 20% of the court fee would be deposited in the county general fund and 25% would be deposited in the city or town general fund. Additional fees may be collected at the discretion of the judge and depending upon the particular type of case.

#### **State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

**Information Sources:** 

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